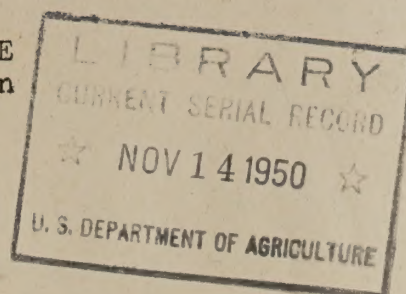


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
August 3, 1950



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

The USDA has offered to buy the total remaining stocks of Cuban sugar - slightly more than 600,000 short tons. The Cuban government has agreed to hold this sugar for the U.S. government until price and delivery schedules can be worked out. At the same time, the Department announced discussions have been opened for procurement of approximately 150,000 tons of surplus sugar in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, to add to American stocks.

The actions will raise the U.S. supply to a figure far in excess of any previous war or peacetime distribution. Any amount in excess of U.S. needs will be available for resale into the world market at U.S. costs.

* * *

Lists and prices of CCC-owned surplus farm commodities available for export or domestic sale during August, were released July 31. Commodities available on both lists were about the same as those offered for July sale. Prices of the grains for domestic sale were somewhat lower than July due to reduced storage charges. Copies of the announcements may be obtained from the Information Branch at above address.

* * *

Generally higher prices for most agricultural commodities in July brought the sharpest increase in the Index of Prices received by farmers since March, 1947. At 263 percent of the 1910-14 average, the index is at the highest level in 18 months - 6.5 percent above a month ago and 6.9 percent above a year ago. The Index of Prices paid, interest, taxes and wages, rose 1 point to 256 percent of the 1910-14 average. As a result of the sharp increase in prices received and the small rise in prices paid, the parity ratio increased 6 points in the month to 103 - 5 points above a year ago.

* * *

Purchases of dried whole eggs for price support will be continued through September at levels reflecting at least 25 cents a dozen to the producer, USDA announced July 28.

* * *

Approval of a contract to exchange 19,000 metric tons of U.S. surplus grain sorghums for a foreign-produced strategic and critical material for transfer to the National stockpile, was announced July 31 by Ralph S. Trigg, president of CCC. The grain sorghums will be exported.

* * *

The U.S. 1950 lamb crop total - 18,431,000 head - is 2 percent smaller than in 1949, and the smallest of record, BAE reports. However, the decrease this year is the smallest since the decline in sheep inventories started in 1942, and Texas, the leading sheep producing state, has a 7 percent larger lamb crop than last year.

* * *

Based on manufacturers' reports, margarine production in the U.S. during June totaled 66,077,000 pounds - 4,001,000 above June, 1949 and 13,811,000 pounds above the June average for the 5 years 1945-49. Of the total production, 98 percent was made from vegetable oils. Coloring was added to 63 percent.

* * *

Average loan rate for Middling 7/8 inch 1950 Upland cotton, gross weight, will be 27.90 cents per pound - 90 percent of August 1 parity. This compares with an average loan rate of 27.23 cents per pound for Middling 7/8 inch 1949 crop. The average rate for Middling 15/16 inch cotton of this year's crop will be 29.45 cents per pound, gross weight, 1.55 cents above 1949 rate.

* * *

Meat production under Federal inspection in the week ended July 29 totaled 289 million pounds - 2 percent less than a week earlier but 6 percent more than in the same week in 1949. Output included: beef, 141 million pounds; veal, 13.6 million; pork, 125 million; lamb and mutton, 9.7 million. Lard production was 32.3 million pounds.

* * *

Farmers put 385,263,697 bushels of 1949-crop corn under CCC price support through June, 1950. This compares with 555,638,507 bushels of 1948-crop corn under price support June 30, 1949.

* * *

Farmers' cash receipts from marketings in July are tentatively estimated by BAE at \$2.3 billion - about 25% above June, and about the same as in July, 1949. Cash receipts for the first 7 months of 1950 are estimated at \$12.9 billion - 7% less than in the same months of 1949. Receipts for livestock and products dropped 4% in the 7 months, for crops - 12%.

* * *

PMA's list of foods expected to be in plentiful supply during September, 1950 includes: Locally grown vegetables, Irish potatoes, cabbage, canned red sour pitted cherries, milk, other dairy products including butter, cheese, cottage cheese, and other skim milk products, eggs, hens, fish (fresh and frozen), peaches; sweetpotatoes for last half of the month. Featured items are locally grown vegetables and hens.

* * *

CCC purchases of dairy products for price support in the week ended July 29, 1950, were: Butter, 2,908,588 pounds; cheese, 7,839,552 pounds; dry milk solids, 9,954,790 pounds. Purchases of dried whole eggs for price support totaled 834,880 pounds, with cancellations of 721,685 pounds. Sales of dried eggs in the week amounted to 142,600 pounds. The volume of purchases of butter and dried eggs for price support have declined very materially in the past two weeks.

* * *

The Federal order regulating the handling of milk in the Columbus, Ohio milk marketing area has been amended by USDA to increase the minimum farm price for Class I and Class II milk by 10¢ per cwt. through November - with the added provision that the increase will continue through January, 1951 if local supplies in the May-August, 1950 period are lower in relation to market needs than for the same period in 1949.

* * *

Soybean stocks on July 1 in all positions totaled 45,854,000 bushels - 5.6 million more than July 1, 1949, and were the highest since 1945. Processing plants held 28,478,000, 10 million bushels more than a year ago. There were 6,832,000 bushels on farms. Flaxseed stocks July 1 totaled 16,785,000 bushels.

* * *

Sales of 223,935 bales of 1948-crop pooled cotton was reported August 1 by CCC. This brings sales from this pool to 612,169 bales, and reduces stocks of cotton in the CCC inventory to approximately 3.1 million bales.

* * *

Young chickens raised on U.S. farms in 1950 have been estimated by BAE at 670,275,000 - 10 percent less than in the same period of 1949, and 14 percent below the 1939-48 average.

* * *

CCC confirmed sales under the International Wheat Agreement in the period July 19-25, 1950, inc., amounted to 2,532,000 bushels of wheat (and flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Portugal, Peru, Netherlands, Brazil, and Cuba.

* * *

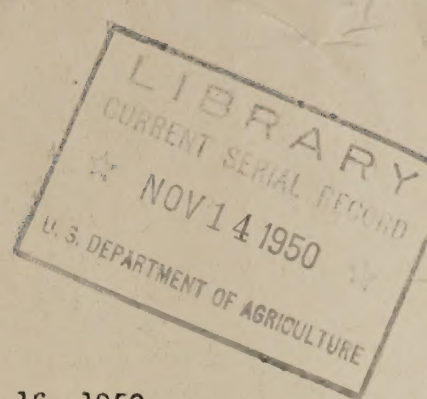
A marketing agreement and order regulating the handling of almonds grown in California, has been issued by USDA following approval by 98 percent of all growers voting in a referendum.

* * * * *

Reserve

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois



August 16, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Three billion pounds of food in cold storage on July 31 were revealed by monthly report of PMA on cold storage holdings in the United States. 1.3 billion pounds of food in coolers, 1.7 in freezers.

Cooler space was 60 per cent occupied, and freezer space 72 per cent occupied. Cooler space figure is about the same as a month earlier, 7 per cent above year ago, but 8 per cent below average for July 31. Freezer occupancy was 3 per cent up from last month, 4 per cent below average.

Freezer holdings included 415 million pounds of frozen fruit constituting a record for this date. Fresh fruits in cooler storage were about half usual supply for this time of year. Withdrawals of frozen orange juice concentrate were 15 million pounds. Frozen vegetables increased during July to 275 million pounds, with record holdings of lima beans, snap beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and spinach.

Cream holdings were only about one-fourth average, but butter increased more rapidly than usual during July and total holdings were 231 million pounds, about 70 per cent owned by Federal government. Cheese holdings increased to 286 million pounds, mostly cheddar, second highest on record.

Stocks of shell eggs went down a half million cases, to 3.2 million, compared to an average of 5.4 million, and last year's stocks of 1.9 million cases on the same date. Frozen eggs were withdrawn at a record rate for July, reducing supply to 175 million pounds. Poultry holdings, 103 million pounds, were 21 million below average; turkey supply was reduced most among poultry supplies during the month.

Among meats, beef holdings stayed about the same at 60 million pounds, but pork holdings were withdrawn at double the usual rate, leaving supplies at 396 million pounds.

* * *

Monthly crop report issued by Bureau of Agricultural Economics, reporting conditions on August 1, shows excellent prospects for most crops. Total production of all crops estimated to be about 124 per cent of average from 1923-32, compared with 132 per cent last year and 138 in 1948, the record year of production. Feed supplies will be abundant, partly because of large carry-over from 1949 crops; about same number of animals on farms as last year.

Wheat crop estimated at 996 million bushels, 13 per cent below last year and 3 per cent below average of past 10 years. Corn crop, estimated about same as July predictions, 3,168 million bushels, 4th largest on record. Record crop of soybeans, 270 million bushels, flaxseed production down somewhat.

Apple crop estimated at 118 million bushels, 12 per cent below last year; peaches, 52 million, down 29 per cent. Potato yield per acre looks like highest on record, and total production 407 million bushels, about 1 per cent above last year.

Milk production per cow was record high for month of July, totaling 11.8 billion pounds of milk. Egg production, 4.6 billion 7 per cent above July last year.

* * *

PMA last week contracted for 434,400 cases of canned sour cherries, in order to assist in stabilizing the price of fresh cherries to growers. Average price, \$4.13 per case. Some in No. 2, some in No. 10 cans. Distribution will be to school lunch, public institutions, welfare agencies, Indian Service, and other domestic outlets.

* * *

Peanut prices will be supported at basic level of 10.8 cents per pound, or \$216 per ton. Price is figured on basis of 90 per cent of parity, as required by law. Variations from base price are provided, depending on type of peanut and area of production. Details available from Fats and Oils Branch, PMA, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

* * *

Meat production last week dropped 3 per cent, to 278 million pounds, about the same as comparable week in '49. Cattle slaughter totaling 256,000 head, down slightly from preceding week and last year. Hog slaughter, 781,000 head, 4 per cent below previous week, but 6 per cent over year ago. Lamb and mutton output 9.8 million pounds, down 2 and 4 per cent compared with previous week and year earlier.

* * *

USDA could increase sheep production by one-third and find a good market, USDA believes. Present sheep population, about 27 million head, could be boosted to 37 million. Even then, wool production would be only about half of total requirements of the nation. Sheep production has been on downward trend since early 40's, and still dropping. Report "Domestic Wool Requirements and Sources of Supply" available from Information Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D.C.

* * *

U.S. standards for canned applesauce have been revised effective September 17. Publication of official notice in Federal Register is scheduled for Friday, August 18. Old standards have been in effect since 1934, and revision takes into account improved techniques of processing, and factors that have helped to increase popularity of the product. New Standards give emphasis to somewhat granular texture, and to sweetness in top grade.

* * *

Federal milk marketing order for Minneapolis-St. Paul area changed, effective August 16, to reduce price to producers by 15¢ per cwt. for Class I (fluid) and 6¢ Class II (manufacturing) milk. Changes have been approved by representatives of more than two-thirds of producers supplying the market.

* * *

FMA sold 572,355 bales of 1948 cotton out of 1948 crop, following offer to sell made on July 21. To date, 1,184,526 bales of 1948 cotton have been sold, since CCC holdings were pooled for growers on August 1, 1949.

* * *

U. S. sold 6,163,000 bushels of wheat (including flour) during week of August 2-8, under International Wheat Agreement. Principal buyers were Germany, Brazil, Belgium, and Netherlands.

* * *

CCC has contracted for grain storage bins and larger buildings with total capacity of almost 89 million bushels. This is estimated to be adequate to store additional corn and other grains to which CCC will take title to satisfy loans made on 1949 or '48 crops. Most of this grain is now stored on farms or in country elevators where space will be needed for 1950 crop.

Contracts awarded to 20 firms in different parts of the country. Steel, aluminum, and wood will be used.

* * *

CCC has arranged to barter 4,000 bales of cotton for a foreign-produced strategic material. Nature of the material and country providing it, according to customary policy, were not revealed.

* * *

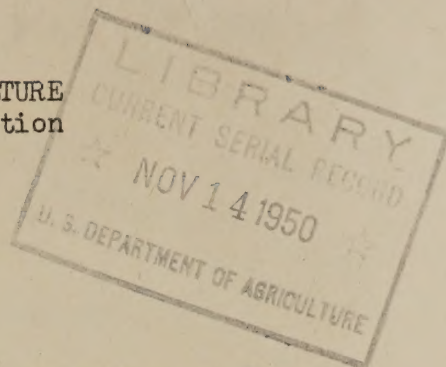
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
August 23, 1950



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Wheat growers across the nation are assured a price averaging not less than \$1.99 per bushel on their 1951 crop. Secretary of Agriculture Brannan announced the support price on August 21, for information and guidance of winter wheat growers who soon will be seeding their 1951 crop. \$1.99 is the same support price as prevailed for 1950 crop, and is calculated at 90 percent of parity. If prices of things farmers buy should go up, raising parity, support price will be raised accordingly, but law provides that it cannot go below the announced figure.

Noteworthy factors in announcement: Under Agricultural Act, Secretary might have reduced support level as low as 80 percent of parity; he kept it at 90 percent, to help insure abundant production. Acreage allotments were announced several months ago on 1951 wheat crop; total acreage, 72.8 million acres. This acreage with average yields would produce 1,150 million bushels, compared with 996 million estimated for 1950 crop. Secretarial statement: "Ample supplies will be a major factor in assuring reasonable food prices to consumers and our ability to meet our international food obligations."

* * *

USDA offers to buy canned tomatoes out of 1950 pack, for distribution to school lunches. Tomatoes must be up to Grade C standard, packed in No. 2, 2 1/2, or 10 cans. Offers to sell must be received by September 15. Details from Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, Washington.

* * *

First plentiful supply of peaches hits Midwest markets this week, as Michigan growers begin harvest. Halehaven is first important variety, plentiful until about Labor Day, with Elberta becoming dominant immediately afterward. Freezing weather around blossom time greatly reduced peach crop in Georgia, South Carolina, southern Illinois and Indiana. Michigan crop was late enough to escape freeze, and total production is expected to be more than 4 million bushels, about one-fifth larger than last year. Distributors, retailers, chain stores and food servers in Midwest principal cities will make special effort to move late season crop to keep it from becoming distress item.

* * *

All California prunes will come to market this year. Last year, growers adopted marketing agreement which permitted keeping certain percentage of crop at home when size of crop seemed to warrant. 25 percent of crop last year was designated as surplus. This year, all prunes coming up to grade will be marketed.

* * *

Spain has become one of the nations participating in the International Wheat Agreement, eligible to buy 100,000 tons of wheat from U.S. or other exporting countries, at the reduced prices which are part of the Agreement.

* * *

Commodity Credit Corporation bought 1,130,692 pounds of dried eggs during week ended August 16, to be delivered during August and September. Purchases to date total 77 million pounds. Sales amounted to 44,000 pounds, for export. Prospective sellers canceled 780,000 pounds of turkeys previously offered for sale to CCC.

* * *

Poultry researchers of USDA studying effect of ultra-violet light to kill bacteria in poultry houses found that hens laid 10 to 19 percent more eggs. Increase in egg production could not be traced to either number of bacteria or Vitamin D. Only shorter rays of ultra-violet seemed effective; longer rays, which increase Vitamin D, did not raise production. No proof so far as to why these certain rays in ultra-violet band result in more eggs.

* * *

Sales of U.S. wheat under International Wheat Agreement during week of August 9-15 were 1,978,000 bushels, including 395,000 bushels of wheat as flour. Principal buyers were Mexico, Israel, Peru, and the Netherlands.

* * *

Families using concentrated frozen orange juice are increasing. Month-by-month study by USDA shows 15.5% of families used the product during June, compared with 14.5 percent in May. Increase in total consumption was continuous for six months, reaching 1,258,000 gallons in June. Household purchases of other concentrated frozen juices also increased slightly in June. Purchases of canned orange juice, in contrast, dropped for second month in row. Canned grapefruit juice and orange-grapefruit blends were up from May; lemon juice purchases doubled from May to June; tomato and pineapple juice sales were down. Percent of families buying canned single-strength juice was down.

* * *

Standards for frozen concentrated orange juice are being changed, effective September 22, to keep pace with this fast growing industry. Original standards, issued year ago, did not make allowance for sweetened product, which now seems to be in demand by some consumers. New standards provide official USDA grades for both unsweetened and sweetened juice concentrate.

* * *

Sheep growers and wool processors long have been looking for some kind of paint to use in branding sheep that could be readily scoured out of the wool after shearing. U.S.D.A. researchers announce they have found it. It uses wool grease (lanolin) as its base, plus carbon tetrachloride, and ordinary paint pigments. New paint stands weathering but washes out easily in ordinary scouring process, preliminary to spinning and weaving. Main shortcoming at present, gets too thick in cold weather.

* * *

Total U.S. exports of grain during July were 28 million bushels, compared with almost 51 million bushels in July 1949. Wheat made up 19 million bushels this year, compared with 31 million in '49. Other grains, less than 9 million compared to 20 million.

* * *

Too much space between cases results in increased breakage of eggs shipped in railroad cars. Total slack of not more than two inches over entire length of car is desirable, according to study by USDA, made on 1680 cars of eggs. Hay, straw, or wood space fillers gave equal protection. No particular difference between wood and fiberboard cases. Cases stacked five-high had more damage than those stacked only four-high.

* * *

Following foods have been designated as "Plentiful" during the month of September by the Production and Marketing Administration of USDA, on basis of production reports.

<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Fruits</u>
All locally grown garden vegetables	Peaches
Sweet potatoes	
Irish potatoes	
<u>Protein Foods</u>	
Milk	Hens
Butter	Eggs
Cheese	

* * * *

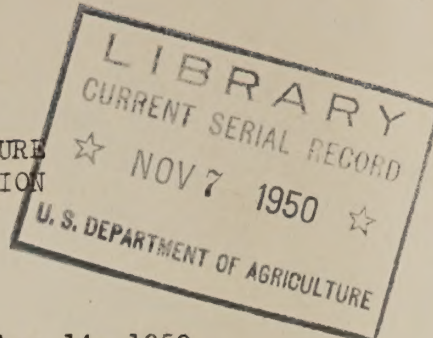
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois



September 14, 1950

FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

With cotton prices at a 30 year high, CCC is finding a ready market for its stocks of 1948-crop pooled cotton - originally 3,793,000 bales. Announcement September 12 of the sale of 131,911 bales, brought the total sales from this pool since September 30, 1949 to 2,465,982 bales. This leaves 1,327,018 bales to be sold. USDA reports loans had been made on 3,190,150 bales of the 1949 crop through August 31, but producers had made repayments and redeemed 3,000,049 bales, leaving only 190,101 bales under loan September 1.

BAE's September 1 estimate of the 1950 crop sets production at 9,882,000 bales. This compares with 16,128,000 produced in 1949. Reduced 1950 U.S. stocks brought the August 1, 1950 world carryover to an estimated 14,000,000 bales - smallest out of season world stocks since the early 1930's. Domestic cotton prices have increased 19 per cent since June 23 - last trading date prior to the start of the Korean conflict, and world prices rose about 20 per cent in that period.

At the request of Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan, the Commerce Department has imposed export controls on raw cotton and cotton linters to all destinations but Canada, effective September 8. A license will be required for export. The action is aimed to conserve America's cotton stocks until the government can determine the extent of U. S. defense requirements for the fibre.

* * *

The Index of Prices received by farmers for their products went up 4 points to 267 (1910-14=100) in the month ended August 15 - BAE reports. The rise was mostly due to sharply higher prices for cotton and cottonseed, and higher prices for dairy and poultry products, rice, beans, wool, and all meat animals except beef cattle. Prices of grains, soybeans, flaxseed, potatoes, and fruits dropped. In the same period the parity index (prices paid by farmers for products needed for production and living, interest, taxes, and wages), rose 2 points. With both indices up - the parity ratio remained at 103 of the 1910-14 average.

* * *

Milk production in August totalled 10.6 billion pounds, highest August production since 1946 - and brought Jan-Aug., 1950 output to 85.2 billion pounds, 1.6 billion greater than the same 8 months of 1949.

* * *

August egg production is estimated by BAE at 4,221 million - 10 per cent above August 1949 and 18 per cent higher than the 10 year average for the month. Production from January 1 through August was 43,347 million - 7 per cent over the same period of 1949. August farm flocks averaged 303,731,000 layers - 6 per cent more than a year earlier and the rate of lay was 13.9 eggs per layer.....a new record. However, pullets not of laying size, on farms, were about 241 million - smallest since September 1940 and 11 per cent below August 1949.

* * *

USDA announced today (Sept. 13) that 1951-crop flaxseed will be supported at an average price of \$2.65 per bushel. The support price average for 1950 crop is \$2.57 a bushel reflecting 60 per cent of parity for flaxseed, as of April 1, 1950. The support program will be implemented by loans and purchase agreements except in specific counties in Texas where direct purchases only will be made.

The price support for the 1951-crop was announced at this time in line with provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949 which provides that price support for field crops must be announced as far as practicable in advance of the planting season. Planting will soon be under way in the early producing areas.

* * *

In a second price support action September 13, USDA announced the price of 1951-crop oats, barley, and rye will be supported under the permissive provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949, through farm storage and warehouse loans and purchase agreements made available by CCC from harvest time through January 31, 1952. More details in next week's Newsletter.

* * *

On the basis of Sept. 1 condition, the 1950 corn crop will total 3,162,638,000 bushels, USDA's Crop Reporting Board forecast Sept. 10. This is only 5 million bushels below the August estimate but the Board warned that much of the crop is "still vulnerable to frost damage unless general killing frosts occur later than usual." The crop especially in the heart of the Corn Belt, needs a lot of warm weather for another three weeks.

Production prospects for other major Midwest crops show substantial gains over August 1: Oats, - 1,481,864,000, up 25 million; Wheat, - 1,011,644,000, up 15 million bu.; Barley, - 297,922,000 bu., - up 12 million; Flaxseed, - 34,142,000 bu., up 3.5 million; soybeans, - 274,702,000 bu., up 4 million; Hay, - 106,818,000 tons, up 2 million; potatoes, - 420,286,000 bu., up 13 million.

Food grain production will be the lowest in 6 years, but supplies will be ample due to the large carryovers. Feed crop prospects are for 125 million tons - slightly less than in 1949 - and well below the record of 138 million tons in 1948. But - with heavy carryovers including record corn stocks, supplies will be near a record, both in total and per animal unit. Oilseed tonnage will be 9% less than 1948, but 1/5th above average.

* * *

USDA dairy support operations in week ended Sept. 2: Purchases - Butter, 1,265,989 lbs.; cheese, 2,151,592 lbs., non-fat milk solids, 5,463,133 lbs. Sales: Butter, 280,659 lbs., cheese, 79,478 lbs.

* * *

Dried egg purchases for price support week ended Sept. 2; were 1,002,350 lbs. for September delivery, with cancellations of 127,595 lbs. Net 1950 purchases - 80,496,242 lbs. Sales for export in the week were 61,475 lbs. to bring export sales to 3,484,634 lbs.

* * *

An export payment program to stimulate the export of apples and winter pears, was put into operation Sept. 11 by USDA. Payments equalling 50 per cent of the export sales price, basis f.a.s. U.S. ports, but not more than \$1.25 per bushel or box, will be made by USDA to U.S. exporters who export fresh apples or pears of specified grades at reduced prices made possible by the payments. Eligible are apples of any variety produced in the Continental U. S., but pears are limited to Anjou, Bosc, Comice, and Winter Nellis production Oregon, Washington, and California. For details contact Fruit and Vegetable Branch, P.M.A., U.S.D.A., Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

The farm price of 1950 crop soybeans will be supported at an average price of \$2.06 per bushel - reflecting 80 per cent of Sept. 1 parity. This compares with \$2.11 per bushel for the 1949 crop. Method will be loans and purchase agreements on beans grading No. 4 or better.

* * *

The U.S. imported 5,801,004 tons of sugar from January 1 through August, 1950 -- compared with 5,315,465 tons in the same 1949 period. U.S. 1950 requirements are expected to be well below the available supply.

* * *

Honey exports under the subsidy program totalled 6,634,158 lbs. through Sept. 2 at a cost of \$298,537.

* * *

U. S. facilities are adequate to crush the record 1950 crop of soybeans - 274.7 million bushels, USDA reports. With exports expected to be larger than from the 1949 crop of 222 million bu., no particular difficulty is expected in processing the new crop.

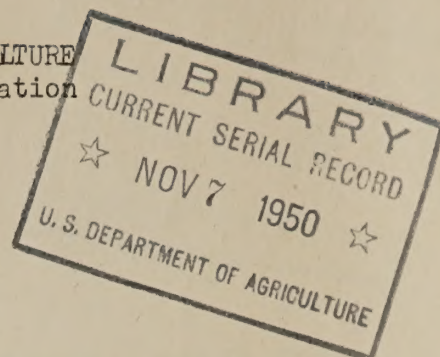
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
September 20, 1950



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

Commercial potato growers in 6 north central states - Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Iowa, and Indiana - will vote in a referendum next week for approval or disapproval of a federal order and agreement regulating the marketing of potatoes grown in the area. A federal marketing order, No. 60, is in effect in the 4 northern states, and provides that potatoes marketed from these areas must be federally inspected and, only those meeting standards for U.S. No. 2 grade, 1 1/2 inches in size or better, may be marketed.

Growers in the 4 northern states recommended that potatoes produced in Indiana and Iowa, which go to the same markets, shall be governed by the same standards. The expansion of the area of the marketing order is one of the proposed amendments on which growers in all 6 states will vote.

The total 6-state vote will be calculated, rather than on a state basis. If two-thirds of all of the growers taking part in the referendum, based on number or volume of production, vote in favor, the amended order will become effective in all 6 states. If less than two-thirds approve, the marketing order will cease to operate. Under current price support legislation, USDA must withhold price support for potatoes produced in areas that have rejected a marketing agreement and order.

Indiana potato production in 1950 is expected to total 3,800,000 bushels, and Iowa production, 1,125,000 bushels. This compares with a total of nearly 65 million bushels for the 4 northern states. Total U.S. production for 1950 was estimated August 1 at 420,000,000 bushels. This is 19,000,000 bushels larger than 1949 production out of which CCC bought about 77 million bushels to support the price to growers.

* * *

The responsibility for planning and carrying out the functions under the Defense Production Act of 1950 with respect to food, farm equipment, and fertilizer, have been delegated by Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan to administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration, Ralph S. Trigg. With respect to lumber, the Secretary delegated authority to the chief of the Forest Service, Lyle F. Watts. Details covering USDA's new functions will be announced at an early date.

* * *

A federal order regulating the handling of milk in the Akron, Ohio milk marketing area was defeated by a narrow margin in a referendum of dairy farmers regularly supplying this market. The vote in the September 13 referendum tallied 63.77 percent in favor of the order and 36.23 percent opposed. Two-thirds of the dairy farmers regularly supplying the market must approve the order before it can be made effective.

* * *

Price support for 7 winter-crop seeds to be produced in 1951 was announced September 15 by USDA. Included are: hairy vetch, with a basic national support price of 14.70¢ per lb.; common vetch, Willamette vetch, and roughpeas, 6¢ per lb.; crimson clover, 16.50¢ per lb.; common ryegrass, 6.75¢; and blue lupine, 4¢ per lb. No support was announced for Austrian winter peas.

* * *

Cottonseed production in 1950 will not be estimated officially until later in the season after the cotton crop has been ginned. However, on the basis of the ratio of lint to seed for the past 5 years (September 1 forecast), this year's production would total about 4,011,000 tons. This compares with 6,613,000 tons in 1949 and a 10-year average of 4,731,000 tons.

* * *

There were 360,000 more persons working on farms at the end of August than a month earlier, BAE reports. However, the total farm employment August 26 - 12,004,000 - was about a half million less than a year earlier.

* * * *

Holdings of farmer stock peanuts at mills and in off-farm warehouses on August 31 were the lowest for any month of record, beginning in 1938, BAE reports. Commercial supplies of farmer stock at the end of August amounted to only 17 million pounds - less than half of July 31 holdings - and 10 million pounds below the stocks on hand a year ago.

* * *

An estimated saving of about 4 million dollars in the annual cost of distributing perishable foods in Boston, would result from a new wholesale produce market proposed by USDA. The proposed market would replace several wholesale markets in and around Boston, and would provide facilities for marketing all perishable food products at one convenient location, a 170-acre site about 1 1/2 miles from the present Faneuil Hall market. The cost of the proposed market would be about 10 million dollars at today's prices. The cost and preparation of land for construction would require an additional 4 million dollars.

USDA announced September 13 price support programs for 1951-crops of oats, barley, and rye, under the permissive provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1949, through farm storage and warehouse storage loans and purchase agreements. The program is being announced at this time to give producers an opportunity to plan their harvest for these feed grains prior to the fall planting but the dollars and cents support levels will not be announced until next spring. The support levels will be determined in approximately the same relationship to corn as under the 1950 program, taking into consideration relative feeding value pound for pound. Price support is mandatory for the 1951 crop of corn at between 80 and 90 percent of parity as of October 1, 1951, the start of the corn marketing year.

USDA has announced that about 5.8 million pounds of frozen dressed turkeys are available for distribution to non-profit school lunch programs. These turkeys represent the remainder of the quantity acquired by the Department in carrying out the final phase of the 1949 turkey price support program in July. Approximately 8.6 million pounds acquired during the 1949 marketing season were distributed to school lunch programs last spring.

Dairy products purchased by USDA for price support in the week ended September 9, and sales: butter, 760,204 pounds; cheese, 1,675,040 pounds; nonfat milk solids, 3,555,690 pounds. Sales: butter, 34,364 pounds; cheese, 147,470 pounds; nonfat milk solids, 128,250 pounds.

Purchases of dried whole eggs dropped off substantially in the week to 598,190 pounds, with cancellations of 141,514 pounds. Sales for export totaled 112,660 pounds.

CCC-confirmed wheat sales under the International Wheat Agreement during the period September 6-12 totaled 3,213,000 bushels (including flour in wheat equivalent). Principal buyers were Germany, Norway, Belgium, and Israel. Cumulative sales against 1950-51 quotas through August 12 are: 34,730,000 bushels.

Income of U.S. farmers in 1949 from sales of poultry and poultry products amounted to \$3,038,000,000 - 10 percent of all farm cash receipts. Cash return for eggs was estimated at \$1,815,618,000; chickens and broilers, \$922,421,000; turkeys, \$264,671,000; other poultry, \$35,011,000. Total cash receipts for these products were about \$35,000,000 less than in 1948.

Production of chicks by commercial hatcheries during August was 73,098,000 - largest of record for the month, and 40 percent greater than August 1949. The previous record August hatch was 68,136,000 in 1945.

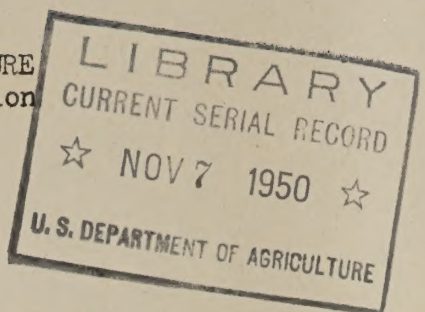
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Branch
623 South Wabash Avenue
Chicago 5, Illinois
September 27, 1950



FOOD MARKETING NEWSLETTER

CCC now has storage facilities for 706,313,727 bushels of grain located throughout the U. S. All but 45 million bushels were added to the nation's grain storage capacity since June 1949.

Of the total, CCC-owned temporary bin-type structures provide storage for 547,498,991 bushels, including 93 million bushel capacity recently purchased; new on-farm storage erected with storage facility loans, 54,871,668 bushels; new facilities of cooperatives and other warehousemen erected under use guarantee agreements, 83,189,118 bushels; special space leased by CCC includes 9,425,950 bushels capacity in airplane hangars and similar facilities, and 11,328,000 bushels space in Maritime Administration owned ships.

About 86 percent of the storage capacity is located in Midwest states, as follows, in millions of bushels: Iowa, 181; Illinois, 118; Nebraska, 93; Minnesota, 46; South Dakota, 44; Kansas, 42; Indiana, 29; Ohio, 19; Missouri, 17; North Dakota, 12; Michigan, 2; and Wisconsin 2.

On recommendation of the Maine Potato Committee, USDA has issued regulations limiting the shipment of potatoes from the state. Shipments of all varieties of potatoes other than Bliss Triumphs must meet requirements of U.S. No. 1 grade or better, and be of sizes not less than 2 1/4 inches nor more than 3 3/4 inches in diameter. The limitation of the regulation will not apply to shipments of Maine Four Star Grade potatoes. Shipments of the Bliss Triumph variety must be at least U.S. No. 1 grade, and may not be below 1 7/8 inches minimum diameter. The regulations are effective October 1, 1950 through June 30, 1951.

July-August exports of U.S. grains and grain products total approximately 67,934,000 bushels of grains and grain equivalent, compared with 105,833,000 bushels in the same 1949 period, PMA estimated September 26. Wheat and wheat products accounted for about 39 million bushels; corn and other grains, 28.9 million bushels. Of the total, 40 percent went to ECA countries, 35 percent to cash paying governments, and 17 percent to Germany and U.S. Pacific occupied areas.

Food stocks in cold storage warehouses on September 1 totaled 3.2 billion pounds—a 200 million pound increase during August. Coolers were 62 percent occupied, with 1.4 billion pounds, while freezers were filled to 73 percent of capacity with 1.8 billion pounds. Holdings of creamery butter were at an all-time record high for any month—237 million pounds—about 90 percent greater than average, and 50 percent greater than a year ago.

Government sales of butter acquired under price support now far exceed purchases. In the week ended September 15, purchases amounted to 229,790 pounds—sales, 394,218 pounds. In the same week, cheese purchases amounted to 1,543,367 pounds and acquisitions of nonfat milk solids, 3,328,706 pounds. Unsold 1949-50 stocks, as of September 15, were: Butter, 189.8 million pounds; cheese, 106.6 million; milk solids, 322.9 million pounds.

Sales of wheat under the International Wheat Agreement, confirmed by CCC, in the period September 13 to 19, amounted to 2,737,000 bushels (including flour in wheat equivalent.) Principal buyers were Mexico, Belgium, Norway, and Peru. Cumulative sales to September 19 against 1950-51 quotas are 37,468,000 bushels.

USDA has completed arrangements to sell 44,092,000 pounds of CCC-owned nonfat dry milk powder to the government of Denmark to be used as animal feed. The powder will be taken from the oldest stocks in the CCC inventory. The transaction reduces government-owned stocks to 318 million pounds out of a total of about 660 million pounds acquired under price support during the past 18 months.

U.S. farmers' cash receipts from sales of dairy products amounted to \$3,781,000,000 in 1949. This represents 13.4 percent of all cash receipts from farm marketings in the year.

Allocation of funds to states and territories for operation of the National School Lunch Program during the 1950-51 school year were announced September 21 by USDA. Of the total appropriation of \$83,500,000, \$64,625,000 was apportioned among the 48 states, District of Columbia, and U.S. territories on the basis of a formula which takes into account the number of children of school age and the per capita income of each state. The funds are used to reimburse participating schools, in part, for their local food purchases. The balance is available to USDA for purchase and distribution to states of foods needed to meet specific nutritional requirements of the children.

Allocations of Midwest states are as follows: Illinois, \$2,222,685; Indiana, \$1,497,999; Iowa, \$899,920; Michigan, \$2,320,387; Minnesota, \$1,174,348; Missouri, \$1,508,764; Nebraska, \$468,987; North Dakota, \$257,947; Ohio, \$2,596,920; South Dakota, \$235,876; Wisconsin, \$1,248,401.

USDA, on September 21, announced a proposal to fix at 92.5 percent the salable percentage for merchantable in-shell filberts for the year beginning August 1, 1950, and a surplus percentage at 7.5 percent. On the same date, the Department announced a proposal to fix a salable percentage for merchantable in-shell walnuts for the 1950-51 marketing year at 75 percent, and a surplus percentage at 25 percent.

The 1950 filbert crop was forecast at 12,400,000 pounds as of September 1. This compares with the record large 1949 production of 22,280,000 pounds. This year's walnut crop is forecast at 129,200,000 pounds compared with the 1949 production of 176,200,000 pounds. Before the percentages are finally established, USDA will consider written data, views or arguments received not later than October 2 by the Director, F&V Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington, D. C.

The salable percentage of almonds for the 1950-51 crop will be 100 percent.

The Cuban 1950 direct consumption sugar quota of 375,000 tons is all entered or has been certified for entry into the Continental U.S. No additional entries may be made until an additional quota becomes available January 1, 1951. There still remains, however, approximately 850,000 tons of the 1950 Cuban quota against which entries of raw sugar for further processings may be made.

Meat production under Federal inspection in the week ended September 23 totaled 328 million pounds - up 6 percent over the preceding week and 11 percent above the same week in 1949. The increase resulted from a spurt in hog slaughter to 1,066,000 head - 9 percent above a week earlier and 14 percent above the week a year ago. Production included: pork, 143 million pounds; beef, 158 million; veal, 16.4 million; lamb and mutton, 11.3 million. Lard output was computed at 32.7 million pounds.

Donald E. Smith, former assistant director of the Chicago Commodity Office, has been appointed acting director of the Kansas City Commodity Office of the Production and Marketing Administration. Mr. Smith took charge of the Kansas City office September 25.

A total of 2,623,475 bales of 1948-crop pooled cotton have been sold through September 20 out of a total of 3,793,000 bales pooled by CCC for producers' account on August 1, 1949.

After five days...

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